

utes significantly to the competitiveness of our Nation. Because we benefit from the bountiful harvests of these farmers and ranchers, it is fitting and appropriate that we observe National Farm Safety and Health Week to promote public awareness of the need for and the importance of agricultural worker health and safety.

For decades, much has been accomplished through initiatives aimed at providing a safer environment for farmers, ranchers, and farm workers. Significant engineering advances have provided guards, shields, and protective equipment, which reduce the hazards and risks associated with agriculture. Educators and concerned organizations have increased knowledge and changed attitudes and behaviors relating to safe work practices in the agricultural sector. However, there is still much to be accomplished.

The arena of agricultural worker health presents many challenges. Long hours, the pressures associated with growing crops and raising livestock, and the vagaries of weather contribute to the creation of stressful situations to both body and mind. For example, agricultural workers have been shown to be particularly susceptible to skin problems, most notably skin cancer, due to exposure to the sun. Prolonged periods of loud noise are contributing to higher than normal levels of permanent hearing loss among farmers and ranchers. Constant exposure to hazardous chemicals may also predispose workers to health problems. While farming and ranching offer their practitioners many great returns, it should be recognized that agricultural professions are among the most dangerous.

The next generation of farmers and ranchers is at special risk. Children are routinely exposed to powerful, complex farm equipment. Some chemicals and some work hazards such as dusts and flowing grain may detrimentally affect the health and safety of children. Their maturity and development must always be considered with regard to agricultural work. During National Farm Safety and Health Week, all of our Nation's citizens should resolve to make health and safety initiatives an integral part of America's great farming traditions.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim the Week of September 19–25, 1993, as “National Farm Safety and Health Week.” I urge all citizens of our great Nation to make the enhancement of farmer, rancher and farm worker health of utmost priority. I call upon the agencies, organizations and businesses which serve production agriculture to strengthen their commitment to agricultural safety and health programs.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-first day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eighteenth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 2:50 p.m., September 22, 1993]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on September 24.

Message to the Congress Transmitting the Report of the National Science Foundation September 21, 1993

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with section 3(f) of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1862(f)), I am pleased to send you the annual report of the National Science Foundation for Fiscal Year 1992. This report describes research supported by the Foundation in the mathematical, physical, biological, social, behavioral, and computer sciences; engineering; and education in those fields.

Achievements such as the ones described in this report are the basis for much of our Nation's strength—its economic growth, national security, and the overall well-being of our people.

As we move toward the 21st century, the Foundation will continue its efforts to expand our Nation's research achievements, our pro-

ductivity, and our ability to remain competitive in world markets.

period October 1, 1991, through September 30, 1992.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
September 21, 1993.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
September 21, 1993.

**Message to the Congress
Transmitting the Report on Mine
Safety and Health**
September 21, 1993

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with Section 511(a) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1969, as amended ("the Act"), 30 U.S.C. 958(a), I transmit herewith the annual report on mine safety and health activities for fiscal year 1992. This report was prepared by, and covers activities occurring exclusively during the previous Administration. The enclosed report does not reflect the policies or priorities of this Administration.

My Administration is committed to working with the Congress to ensure vigorous enforcement of existing mine safety and health standards. We are also intent on improving these rules where necessary and appropriate to better protect worker health and safety.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
September 21, 1993.

**Message to the Congress
Transmitting the Report of the Saint
Lawrence Seaway Development
Corporation**
September 21, 1993

To the Congress of the United States:

I transmit herewith the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation's Annual Report for fiscal year 1992. This report has been prepared in accordance with section 10 of the Saint Lawrence Seaway Act of May 13, 1954 (33 U.S.C. 989(a)), and covers the

**Remarks Prior to a Meeting With
Congressional Leaders and an
Exchange With Reporters**
September 22, 1993

The President. Ladies and gentlemen, I want to say, in the presence here of the press, this is the last meeting I will have a chance to have with the large bipartisan leadership in Congress on health care issues. But I do want to say a profound word of thanks on behalf of not only myself but the entire administration for the work that has been done by people in both parties in the Congress since the first bipartisan leadership meeting I had on January 26th, when I asked that people be designated to work with us from both parties on this health care issue.

I'm not sure that any consultative process like this has ever been carried out before where there's been so much common work, not only between and among ourselves but also with people in the country who are interested in this issue. We have met with over 1,100 groups, with literally thousands of doctors, nurses, and other affected folks in this process. But the most important thing to me has been the spirit of genuine searching and determination that I have seen from leaders in both parties on this issue.

I just want to say, as I prepare to give this speech tonight, how much I appreciate that and how much I look forward to continuing that process in the weeks and months ahead. I'm very grateful to you, and we're going to talk for about an hour here, and then the Senate has to go make a vote, I think. But we're going to have a chance to talk about health care one more time before I speak tonight.

Health Care Reform

Q. Mr. President, you're about to start something tonight that has been tried and